

F. Infrastructure & Administration Elements

1. Infrastructure

a. Facility Operation and Maintenance

Adequate operation and maintenance considerations for existing and planned facilities should be a driving element in the overall management of the CPNA. Without such considerations, facilities could deteriorate, equipment could fail, and safety hazards could result. Operation and maintenance costs can be substantial, and are generally not fully funded because of budget constraints and other priorities. In fact, neither the BLM nor DFG has a budget for the CPNA, but rely on various funds to meet overall operation and maintenance needs. Items outlined in this section are identified as minimal requirements for operation and maintenance. Work will be performed by contractors, staff or volunteers as money, materials, work load and priorities specify. Additional funding or alternative methods of performing work may be adopted as monitoring or management decisions dictate.

Goal 1: Manage the CPNA in an efficient and timely manner.

Objective 1.1: Provide a well trained staff to manage the CPNA.

- Action 1.1a: Complete a staffing study to identify personnel needs for proper, timely and efficient management. Prepare necessary documentation for authorization of new permanent positions as identified in the staffing study.
- Action 1.1b: Identify staff training needs. Coordinate time and resources for staff to attend agency-sponsored or agency-funded training.

Goal 2: Provide adequate planning to support the operation and maintenance of existing and future facilities within the CPNA.

Objective 2.1: Operate and maintain existing facilities.

- Action 2.1a: Perform corrective maintenance on existing facilities within the Carrizo (Including: Washburn, American, Saucito, Traver, Cochora, M.U., and Painted Rock Ranches, and the Goodwin Education Center). Some of the repairs may include plumbing, electrical, water well and sewer as well as all weather surfacing of the access roads and parking areas.
- Action 2.1b: Complete the Carrizo Fire Station and develop an operational and maintenance plan which will reasonably staff and operate the station and Washburn site.
- Action 2.1c: Perform necessary maintenance to water systems including testing and parts repair or replacement. Windmill repair may require travel of vehicles to the job site. Such travel will be kept to a minimum and carried out so as to limit impact.
- Action 2.1d: Maintain existing recreational facilities until such facilities are replaced or rehabilitated. Contracts will continue to be used for portable toilet servicing.

- Action 2.1e: Stabilize and rehabilitate the historic buildings and structures within the Washburn Ranch eligible National Register Historic District in a manner that preserves its historic significance, pursuant to Section 106 and 110 of the NHPA.

Objective 2.2: Develop operational and maintenance plans for new or proposed facilities within the existing ranch boundaries.

- Action 2.2a: Develop project plans, including an operational and maintenance section, for all recreational developments.
- Action 2.2b: Plan for future operation and maintenance of ranch buildings. Remove structures which cannot be adequately maintained or which do not provide any contribution to the management of the CPNA. Proposed facilities within and adjacent to the Washburn Historic District should be visually compatible with the historic character or setting of the ranch.
- Action 2.2c: Develop a landscape plan for the Washburn Ranch Historic District and adjacent area within the Washburn Ranch Administrative and Fire Center complex.

Objective 2.3: Provide necessary informational signs.

BLM Manual 9130 provides guidance for the placement and maintenance of signs and will be utilized as a guide in developing signing needs. Within the County road easements, the SLO County Engineering Department guidelines and regulations supersede State or Federal regulation. Recognizing the delicate environment of the CPNA, signing should be minimized. Signs will be placed only to ensure safety, protect wildlife and identify specific and important sites.

- Action 2.3a: Repair, replace, and install signs as needed until the sign plan is developed.
- Action 2.3b: Develop a sign management plan by plan year one. This plan will include design, installation and maintenance standards, identify responsibilities and funding sources, develop a common CPNA style for all areas and purposes and provide placement guidance.
- Action 2.3c: Coordinate the sign plan with the Interpretive Prospectus to provide uniformity.

Objective 2.4: Provide a transportation system within the CPNA.

Continued road maintenance within the CPNA is needed to keep the roads open and in a reasonably safe condition. Roads under the responsibility of SLO County will be maintained by the County maintenance crew in accordance with accepted County standards. Other road maintenance will be under the responsibility of the managing partners. The maintenance proposed for all roads will consider the sensitivity of the resources of the area and will protect habitats and cultural resources to the maximum extent possible while providing for public safety.

- Action 2.4a: Consult with the County of SLO on resource issues and transportation related activities that may affect roadways.
- Action 2.4b: Transportation designations for open, closed and administrative uses will be updated as needed (Map #4, Table 4, Appendix H).

Action 2.4c: Perform annual maintenance on roads.

Action 2.4d: Develop a maximum of 10 miles of new roads as necessary.

Action 2.4e: Actions related to third party rights will be reviewed for consistency with the mission.

Potential Impact: General surface disturbing impacts are likely. The severity of impacts may range from maintenance of previously disturbed surfaces to new impacts from blading. New surface disturbance is not expected to exceed 15 acres for the life of the plan. The disturbance from facility maintenance is not expected to exceed 40 acres in any one year and 75 acres for the life of the plan.

Mitigation: These impacts will be adequately addressed by the mitigation measures described for the general surface disturbing impacts, and by the standard operating procedures.

Potential Impact: Minor to moderate levels of general wildlife harassment impacts are possible.

Mitigation: The measures described above should be adequate for the level of disturbance anticipated.

Potential Impact: General wildlife collision impacts are possible. Electrocution hazards are currently thought only to be potential impacts for California condors, with no known electrocution mortalities reported. Collisions with vehicles are known to occur commonly along portions of Soda Lake Road and under specific conditions such as dense vegetative along well-traveled roads.

Mitigation: The measures described above and the action items should adequately address these potential impacts. In addition, measures are described within the Mineral Extraction portion of this plan that addresses mitigation for reducing potential impacts to California condor.

b. Facility Development

An area the size of the CPNA, with the amount of public interest and wide variety of development needs will require additional facilities to handle the expected increase in public use and management needs. At this time, the managing partners are getting by with the improvements that were in place at the time of purchase. With the ever increasing work load, this isn't adequate, and major developments are needed.

Goal 1: Provide for guidance and planning for new facilities which are consistent with the goals and objectives of the CPNA.

Objective 1.1: Provide operational guidance and planning for new structures and facilities.

Action 1.1a: Determine the need for, and develop, a central administrative site that provides adequate work space and facilities such as potable water sources and disposal facilities. This site would provide all office, clerical and support needs for the management of the area.

Action 1.1b: Investigate requirements for, and develop a research facility that will provide commercial power, communications, storage, laboratory space and living accommodations for researchers.

Action 1.1c: Determine the need for a centralized residential complex for use by personnel assigned to the CPNA. It may be more efficient to supply the necessary water, power, communications and sewage disposal capabilities at a central site rather than dispersed onto each partners' individual properties.

Action 1.1d: Install fences, cattle guards, water troughs and other facilities necessary for proper management of the livestock grazing program.

Potential Impact: General surface disturbing impacts are not likely to exceed 10 acres in any one year or 20 acres for the life of the plan. The severity of impacts may range from maintenance of previously disturbed surfaces to new impacts from blading.

Mitigation: These impacts will be adequately addressed by the mitigation measures described for the general surface disturbing impacts, and by the standard operating procedures.

Potential Impact: Minor to moderate levels of general wildlife harassment impacts are possible.

Mitigation: The measures described above should be adequate for the level of disturbance anticipated.

Potential Impact: General wildlife collision impacts are possible.

Mitigation: The measures described above and the action items should adequately address these potential impacts.

c. Third Party Land Use Applications

New applications for infrastructure generally consist of realty actions to authorize new roads, pipelines, power lines, usually requested by companies or individuals. The content of this section is considered applicable to all third parties, not the managing partners, who are subject to other sections of this plan. Due to the remote, rural setting of the CPNA, very few applications are anticipated, but occasional applications can be expected over the life of this plan. All third party applications will be evaluated within the framework of agency policies, land use planning documents, State and Federal law, NEPA and CEQA, and this management plan. The objectives, actions and SOPs described in this plan will be management guidance for new land use applications.

Goal 1: Allow new land uses consistent with the mission of the CPNA.

Objective 1.1: Evaluate new land use applications for consistency with the long-term goals and objectives.

Action 1.1a: The managing partners may authorize actions that are consistent with the mission. The CPNA will be a right-of-way avoidance area, meaning that new applications will be discouraged, and may be rejected.

Action 1.1b: The managing partner will evaluate and may authorize actions affecting their respective properties.

Action 1.1c: Land use authorizations will include measures that result in an environmentally superior alternative.

Action 1.1d: New applications that are inconsistent with the goals and objectives will not be authorized. Recreation and Public Purposes Act patent applications, Desert Land Entry and Indian Allotment applications are considered inconsistent with the objectives and will be rejected.

Potential Impact: General surface disturbing impacts are not likely to exceed 5 acres in any 1 year or 30 acres for the life of the plan. The severity of impacts may range from maintenance of previously disturbed surfaces to new impacts from blading.

Mitigation: These impacts will be adequately addressed by the mitigation measures described for the general surface disturbing impacts, and by the standard operating procedures.

Potential Impact: Minor to moderate levels of general wildlife harassment impacts are possible.

Mitigation: The measures described above should be adequate for the level of disturbance anticipated.

Potential Impact: General wildlife collision impacts are possible. Collision potential for California condor is highest along the Caliente Mountain ridge line, however, no known proposals exist for this area. Electrocution hazards are currently thought only to be potential impacts with no known electrocution mortalities reported.

Mitigation: The measures described above and the action items should adequately address these potential impacts.

2. Administration

a. Research/Inventory

Achieving the mission of the CPNA demands a wealth of reliable and timely information on biological, cultural, recreational, human, other physical resources, and their interactions. Many of the sections in this plan describe research that is required to insure that management activities are effective and consistent with project objectives, laws and regulations. Further, much of the information gathered will be vital in understanding the degree to which elements of the mission are compatible. For example, two of the primary mission objectives include management for the purpose of protecting endangered species, and restoration of native communities. While the managing partners believe that these goals are compatible, the degree to which they compliment or inhibit each other is uncertain at this time.

A great deal of the initial investigations will be designed to identify the resources that are present, including plant and animal distributions, soil surveys, location of cultural resources, and areas of special management need such as highly erodible sites or cultural resources especially susceptible to damage or vandalism. These basic inventories require considerable field observation, recordation, and mapping. Acquiring this information must be the first step toward making sound management decisions, formulating additional needed research and minimizing the work and time required for permitting management and research activities described in this plan.

Because the primary objectives of the CPNA are focused on biological resources, and because the ecological relationships of the area is complex and incompletely understood, much of the research will continue to focus on gaining reliable knowledge on the biology, demographics, habitat requirements and interactions of the flora and fauna. Particular emphasis is placed on further understanding the endangered species and species of management concern, and how best to restore historic plant communities.

Possibly the most important goal for research is to explore the usefulness and consequences of various management activities designed to meet plan goals. Fire, plant community restoration and grazing are tools that have great potential to benefit biological resources by re-establishing processes, increasing native species diversity, and managing endangered species habitats. Some of these activities are being implemented to some degree, but their roles, and impacts to the ecosystem are as yet only hypothesized. Further study is needed before these tools can be reliably integrated into long-term, large-scale management schemes.

It is expected that research projects will proliferate over the next several years, and there will be a need to periodically prioritize research to funnel limited managing-partner funds and resources to studies that meet the needs described in this plan. However, because resources are limited, outside funding and research will be encouraged. Regardless, project staff should be cognizant of all work being conducted and assist in the coordination of field activities to minimize conflicts between concurrent research and management activities. Finally, any activity approved by the managing partners must adhere to all laws and regulations. Any project not "authorized" through the process below will not be covered by programmatic consultations and will be operating outside of the realm of this plan.

Goal 1: Provide a framework that will both facilitate quality research, and allow project staff to fulfill their responsibilities.

Objective 1.1: Encourage interest among academic and professional communities to conduct research that addresses management needs.

- Action 1.1a: Develop a database of former and current researchers and interested professionals encompassing the range of resources, topics and issues of the CPNA.
- Action 1.1b: Maintain an updated file of necessary research needs that may be disseminated to specialists, academic institutions, and other interested parties.
- Action 1.1c: Coordinate an outreach program to present information about the CPNA, research needs, project facilities, and other pertinent information to regional academic and professional institutions and interested groups.

Objective 1.2: Maintain research facilities on the CPNA.

- Action 1.2a: Until a central research facility is established, the Painted Rock Ranch will provide lodging and work space for researchers. Storage, minor lab facilities, herbarium, CPNA reference materials, and research and restoration equipment will also be available. The Washburn Ranch, BLM's primary administrative and fire facility, will also be available to house researchers and for meetings.

Objective 1.3: Establish a Research Advisory Council to provide input to the managing partners on the scientific merit of proposed projects, review project findings, how best to incorporate findings into management actions, and the identification of additional research needs.

- Action 1.3a: Secure agreements by 10-12 external specialists from various fields of study to serve on the council.

- Action 1.3b: Convene the council on an annual basis to review research progress. The council will be asked to provide input when needed, and therefore may be asked to meet more frequently.

Objective 1.4: Develop a program to coordinate communications, the authorization process, facilities logistics, and scheduling of field activities.

- Action 1.4a: Require proposals for all research projects prior to initiation. This will allow the managing partners to: identify potential NEPA, CEQA, or other legal conflicts and requirements; to ensure that proposed activities will not interfere with current management or research; and to facilitate all other associated administrative needs.
- Action 1.4b: If the research proposal is approved by the managing partners, a letter of authorization to the principle investigator will confirm that field work may begin. The letter of authorization will not be issued until it has been determined that all necessary permits, environmental assessments, and logistic arrangements have been acquired or complied with.
- Action 1.4c: Provide a list of SOPs required of all projects to every researcher. "Leave it as you found it" stipulations, such as removing all site markers, will also apply.
- Action 1.4d: Designate a primary Research Coordinator. The Coordinator will be the first contact for prospective researchers and will perform or assist in administrative activities described under many of the objectives listed here, including ensuring necessary proposal content, submitting proposals to the managing partners, sending letters of authorization, and logistics. The Coordinator will report on-going research activities and submit new proposals to the management team monthly. The Research Coordinator, as a member of the management team, will contribute to the review and interpretation of management implications of research. However, in the administrative capacity described here, the Research Coordinator is not intended to make judgement on the merits of proposed research and make sole decisions as to whether research may be conducted.
- Action 1.4e: Create an information archive system at a central location for storage and retrieval of all project data, reports, and literature. Cultural resource and Native American proprietary information will not be included.

Objective 1.5: Make information available to other agencies, organizations, and individuals with an interest or responsibility in managing similar natural lands.

- Action 1.5a: Encourage researchers and staff to disseminate information in a timely manner through participation in regional conferences, symposiums, and the publication process.

Potential Impact: No impacts are anticipated from these actions.

b. Monitoring

Throughout this plan, monitoring activities that will indicate changes in resource conditions are discussed. Monitoring specifically entails observing, measuring, recording and tracking the conditions of

resources and physical attributes. The information gathered is periodically examined to determine if changes in management practices are warranted. Some of the indicators of change that will be monitored are integral to several issues discussed in this plan and will be implemented in various locations. For example, vegetation monitoring will be useful in understanding the effects of fire and grazing, and the consequences of increased visitor use or climatic change.

Most of the monitoring needs fall into three classes: administrative, management impact, and long-term trend. Administrative monitoring tracks adherence to required guidelines. To authorize grazing at any time, for instance, there must be a minimum of 500 pounds/acre of residual mulch on the ground. In this case mulch levels are tested before and during each grazing season, and in the event that there is insufficient vegetation or mulch on the ground, grazing will either not begin or will be discontinued until there are sufficient mulch levels (refer to livestock grazing under the habitat management section of biotic communities.).

Due to incomplete knowledge and ever changing environments and climate, the effects of management activities may never be fully predictable. Evaluating indicators of resource change can provide the best available opportunity to measure the effectiveness and consequences of specific management actions. Many of the actions described in the Recreation section are expected to localize, and therefore minimize, impacts due to visitor use (such as camping).

Suggested monitoring will reveal if that is the case, while also clarifying which sites are incapable of increased use. In some cases, as data on activities and indicators accumulate, a measure of predictability may develop to guide future decisions. Monitoring plant and animal communities after wildfires could, especially when combined with prescribed fire experimentation, yield reasonable expectations for the potential of fire as a management tool.

Trend monitoring, in this case, refers to tracking changes that are not directly resource related or caused by specific management actions. Photo-monitoring changes to inaccessible cultural sites, visitor type and number, and unauthorized dumping are examples. These factors will all be important in determining the health of resources and the resources of the region as a whole (such as migratory species), and in defining project priorities.

In order to make decisions based on changes in indicators, a threshold of acceptable change must be described. In addition, specific locations, desired sample sizes, and methodologies should be determined before monitoring begins. Determining these "guiding principles" will be the first step in establishing a comprehensive monitoring program and will involve coordination with Federal and State regulatory agencies, managing partners and academia.

Goal 1: Develop a monitoring strategy to provide continuity over time, comparisons between areas, and guides for new staff and researchers.

Objective 1.1: Maintain standard methodologies to the greatest extent possible for all monitoring activities in a single document.

Action 1.1a: Draft standard methodologies for monitoring activities, consulting with appropriate specialists when necessary.

Action 1.1b: Create a manual that includes descriptions of methodologies for all inventorying and monitoring techniques used.

Potential Impact: No impacts are expected to occur as a result of these actions.

c. Supplemental Rules

Supplemental rules complement local, state and federal laws and regulations, to increase public safety and protect sensitive resources. These rules are not intended to unduly interfere with the public use and enjoyment of the CPNA, but to enhance that use by providing protection for the area so that its natural qualities will be maintained or enhanced in the future.

Goal 1: Provide for public safety and resource protection.

Objective 1.1: Establish shooting closures to protect visitors within the following high-use areas:

- Action 1.1a: Within ¼ mile of any Administrative site, including but not limited to the Selby and KCL Campgrounds, Washburn, Saucito, Goodwin and MU Ranch headquarters, the Soda lake Overlook complex and the Wallace Creek interpretive area.
- Action 1.1b: Beginning at the intersection of Soda Lake Road and Selby Road, southerly along Selby Road to its intersection with a fenceline behind Painted Rock, then westerly along that fenceline to its intersection with the section fenceline, then northerly along the section fenceline to its intersection with Soda Lake Road, then southerly back to the beginning.
- Action 1.1c: Recreational target shooting is prohibited in the CPNA

Objective 1.2: Protect sensitive resources and personnel of the CPNA.

- Action 1.2a: The Washburn Administrative Site, the Goodwin Education Center, and the MU, Goodwin, Saucito and Painted Rock Ranches headquarters may be closed to public access at the discretion of the BLM or the Managing Partners.

Objective 1.3: Protect sensitive resources from unauthorized public use.

- Action 1.3a: Sulfur Springs are closed to public access except under permit from the BLM. Painted Rock is closed to public access from March 1 through July 15 except for tours conducted by the Managing Partners. It is open to public access at other times, subject to special closure for resource protection at the discretion of the BLM.

Objective 1.4: Protect sensitive resources from impact caused by vehicles or aircraft.

- Action 1.4a: Operation of any vessel, including aircraft, hovercraft, and boats of any kind, or any vehicle equipped with an engine or motor for propulsion is prohibited on or within 100 feet of Soda Lake or any adjacent stream, channel, dry lake or body of water.
- Action 1.4b: Vehicles parked adjacent to any designated route of travel must be parked as close to the route as possible without preventing passage of other vehicles.
- Action 1.4c: All roads, routes, paths, trails, fire lines, burned areas and ways are closed to motor vehicles unless designated open for such use. Open roads may be closed temporarily at the discretion of the Managing Partners for public safety or

resource protection. Unless otherwise posted, the speed limit within the CPNA shall be 25 mph except on County Roads.

Action 1.4d: No person, other than employees on official business or representatives of the Managing Partners, may operate a motor vehicle on any route designated for administrative use only, except by prior approval of the Managing Partners.

Action 1.4e: Bicycles may not be operated on closed roads or trails, or off existing open roadways or trails. Roads designated for administrative use only are open to bicycle, pedestrian and casual horse use unless otherwise posted.

Objective 1.5: Protect sensitive resources within designated camping areas.

Action 1.5a: All litter, waste or refuse at campsites must be kept within a container or receptacle while camping and removed when leaving the CPNA.

Action 1.5b: All camping or overnight parking must occur within designated camping areas and campgrounds.

Action 1.5c: Property left unattended for more than four days, without prior approval of the Managing Partners, will be treated as abandoned and may be removed and stored by Law Enforcement personnel at the owner's expense.

Action 1.5d: Overnight camping is limited to 14 days in any 30 day period, for no more than 28 days within a one year period, except as specified in writing by the authorized officer. Camping is allowed only within designated campgrounds and camping areas.

Action 1.5e: When livestock grazing is occurring under permit from the BLM, the primary purpose of all appurtenant facilities such as corrals and loading chutes will be for the permittees livestock.

Action 1.5f: Camping or overnight parking is prohibited within 200 yards of a natural or artificial water source.

Objective 1.6: Protect resources from impacts of pets and pack animals.

Action 1.6a: All pets and pack animals must be controlled by the owner at all times. Pack animals shall be within corrals or adequately restrained. Pets must be prevented from chasing, harassing or taking wildlife.

Objective 1.7: Protect resources from over use by organized groups or events.

Action 1.7a: Organized groups with 20 or more persons or 5 or more vehicles must secure a permit for any day or overnight use.

Action 1.7b: Any research or study activities will require a permit or authorization from the BLM.

Action 1.7c: The use of metal detectors is prohibited, except for approved administrative purposes.

d. Emergency Services and Public Safety

Provide or facilitate a wide range of public services to remedy events or circumstances which may adversely affect people, property, or natural resources. These services include Public and Employee Safety, Law Enforcement, Fire Safety, Search and Rescue, Emergency Preparedness, Emergency Medical Response, Fire Management, Fire Prevention and Cost Recovery, and Radio Communications.

Goal 1: Provide for visitor safety and provide a safe environment for employees and volunteers. The isolation of the CPNA complicates emergency medical response and emergency preparedness. Emergency medical transportation may be delayed for up to two hours. The isolation of the area may also complicate an effective response to earthquakes, hazardous materials spills, or serious accidents.

Objective 1.1: Increase public awareness of natural hazards and provide emergency services.

- Action 1.1a: Develop a brochure to discuss safety and fire prevention issues. Procedures for reporting hazards, fire or criminal activity will be included.
- Action 1.1b: A committee of representatives from the managing partners will meet following any injury accident and make recommendations to prevent similar incidents and to promote safety awareness.
- Action 1.1c: Identify safety hazards and develop strategies to reduce, eliminate, or inform the public about them.

Objective 1.2: Provide safe working conditions for employees and volunteers.

- Action 1.2a: Assess the work environment for hazards associated with field and office work areas.
- Action 1.2b: Provide safety equipment and training designed to reduce or eliminate such hazards.

Objective 1.3: Appropriate personnel will be properly trained and equipped to respond to a variety of medical emergencies.

- Action 1.3a: Law enforcement officers and the Washburn Fire Station Manager will jointly maintain a cache of equipment for the stabilization of injured victims.
- Action 1.3b: Orders for emergency response will be placed through Bakersfield Communications whenever possible. Bakersfield Communications will coordinate rescue efforts through SLO County which has primary responsibility for providing emergency services to the area. Air and ground ambulance may respond if available.
- Action 1.3c: Law enforcement officers and the Washburn Fire Station Manager will maintain current Emergency Medical Technician credentials.
- Action 1.3d: Law enforcement officers will investigate all injuries and accidents. The results of investigations will be made available to the managing partners.

Objective 1.4: Assist with management of significant incidents such as a major earthquake, serious hazardous materials spill, or significant transportation accidents.

Action 1.4a: Law enforcement officers will maintain a liaison with the SLO County Office of Emergency Services and be prepared to assist with emergency responses to significant incidents.

Action 1.4b: Designate a resource advisor from the managing partners to assist and advise the incident commander.

Potential Impact: Minimal general surface disturbing impacts are likely.

Mitigation: The minor impacts will be adequately addressed by the mitigation measures described for the general surface disturbing impacts, and by the standard operating procedures.

Potential Impact: Minimal general wildlife harassment impacts are possible.

Mitigation: The measures described above should be adequate for the minimal level of disturbance anticipated.

1. Law Enforcement

Enforcement of laws and regulations is needed to protect people, property, and natural resources. Isolated areas may foster criminal activity, which employees and volunteers must be aware of and prepared for.

Goal 2: Prevent crime and violation of local, state and federal regulations.

Objective 2.1: Enforce laws and regulations to protect people, property and sensitive resources.

Action 2.1a: Develop cooperative working relationships with other law enforcement agencies.

Action 2.2b: Maintain cooperative agreements already established with the SLO and Kern County Sheriffs' Offices to provide BLM Rangers with the powers of State peace officers.

Action 2.2c: Share information concerning criminal activity with other law enforcement agencies.

Potential Impact: No impacts are expected.

2. Fire Safety

Conditions during late spring and summer increase the rate of fire spread through fine fuels pushed by the ever-present afternoon winds. Suppression efforts to protect life and property are first priority.

Goal 3: Protect people, facilities and equipment from wildfires.

Objective 3.1: Increase the availability and dependability of water sources needed for wildfire suppression and prescribed burning.

Action 3.1a: Select appropriate water holding tanks and fit valves with 2.5 inch National Standard adapters to be compatible with fire fighting equipment.

Action 3.1b: Prepare an activity fire plan for any procedure that could lead to fire ignition, such as metal cutting and welding, mowing and scraping.

Objective 3.2: Prevent fires through increasing public awareness and education about fire hazards and fuel reduction.

Visitors are often unaware that catalytic converters can cause fires, that sudden winds can make campfires dangerous sources of ignition, and that recreational activities such as shooting and off-highway vehicle use can cause fires in remote areas that are difficult to reach. Safety messages involving fire prevention are most important in late spring, summer and early fall, when temperatures are high, humidity low, and grass is dry.

Action 3.2a: Post fire prevention signs that give a clear and concise fire prevention message.

Action 3.2b: Prevent wildfires from spreading to or from structures by removing dry vegetation a distance of at least 30 feet.

Action 3.2c: Reduce roadside fire hazards by mowing vegetation from the roadway and shoulders.

Potential Impact: Minimal general surface disturbing impacts are likely.

Mitigation: The minor impacts will be adequately addressed by the mitigation measures described for the general surface disturbing impacts, and by the standard operating procedures.

Potential Impact: Minimal general wildlife harassment impacts are possible.

Mitigation: The measures described above should be adequate for the minimal level of disturbance anticipated.

3. Search and Rescue

Periodically, employees will receive a report concerning a lost person or become involved in a search and rescue incident. Employees and volunteers should be aware that SLO and Kern Counties Sheriff Offices have primary responsibility for this function.

Goal 4: Assist county search and rescue efforts.

Objective 4.1: Respond as appropriate to search and rescue situations.

Action 4.1a: Develop a protocol for a search and rescue operation.

Action 4.1b: CPNA employees or volunteers will facilitate county search and rescue efforts by assisting with planning, facilities, logistics, transportation or staging.

Potential Impact: Minimal general surface disturbing impacts are likely.

Mitigation: The minor impacts will be adequately addressed by the mitigation measures described for the general surface disturbing impacts, and by the standard operating procedures.

Potential Impact: Minimal general wildlife harassment impacts are possible.

Mitigation: The measures described above should be adequate for the minimal level of disturbance anticipated.

4. Radio Communications

Goal 5: Improve radio communication.

Presently radio coverage throughout the CPNA is inadequate. The Bakersfield Communications will serve as the primary dispatch office for CPNA activities. BLM and TNC rely heavily on this system whereas the DFG personnel depend mostly on their communication center. Each communication center is available to all managing partners. However, the Carrizo is very large and locating persons or incidents quickly during emergencies can be difficult.

Objective 5.1: Enhance communications through cooperative agreements and by gathering and making accessible needed information.

- Action 5.1a: Maintain cooperative agreements with TNC and DFG that allow their personnel to utilize Bakersfield Communications as needed or communicate with BLM personnel.
- Action 5.1b: Provide new or reprogram existing agency radios to allow employees and volunteers to access the Bakersfield Communications Center.
- Action 5.1c: Establish and maintain a database at Bakersfield Communications of names of significant land marks or areas such as roads, pastures, ranches, and geographic areas, and their legal descriptions and latitude/longitude as appropriate. (Technical Appendix)
- Action 5.1d: Prepare a radio communications guide, in the form of a booklet, for all persons associated with the CPNA who are likely to use BLM frequencies. Include the standard geographic place names with township & range, and latitude & longitude.
- Action 5.1e: All managing partner's employees and volunteers should maintain constant radio communication with the appropriate communication center.

Potential Impact: No impacts are expected.

5. Earthquake Investigations

In the event of a major earthquake, damage to structures, facilities and utilities will be extensive. Emergency response will be coordinated by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the San Luis Obispo and Kern County Office of Emergency Services (OES). There will be a world-wide response by the geophysical community as well as the media and general public to an earthquake on the San Andreas Fault.

Goal 6: Protect sensitive resources while responding to emergency scientific needs after an earthquake.

Objective 6.1: Provide the scientific community, the media and general public with guidelines necessary to access and explore the San Andreas fault following an earthquake.

- Action 6.1a: Work with the SLO and Kern County OES, FEMA, the California Division of Mines and Geology and the U. S. Geological Survey to coordinate scientific investigation.
- Action 6.1b: Identify access routes, not normally open to the public, and guidelines for off road travel to provide access.

Action 6.1c: Control visitors so that they do not interfere with scientific investigations and stay on designated routes of travel.

Potential Impact: General surface disturbing impacts are likely.

Mitigation: The impacts will be adequately addressed by the mitigation measures described for the general surface disturbing impacts, and by the standard operating procedures.

Potential Impact: General wildlife harassment impacts are possible.

Mitigation: The measures described above should be adequate for the anticipated level of disturbance.